

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01504 311534Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
SSM-05 /081 W
-----022848 010439Z /13

R 311456Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1026
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1504

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, IS, JO
SUBJECT: GOOD WORDS FOR PRESIDENT NAVON IN THE ARABIC PRESS

1. SUMMARY: THE EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC PRESS HAS HAD UNCHARACTERISTICALLY KIND WORDS FOR ISRAEL'S NEW PRESIDENT YITZHAK NAVON WHOSE ORIENTAL ANCESTRY AND FLUENT ARABIC ARE MUCH APPRECIATED. WHILE THERE ARE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT LIMITATIONS ON THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY ROLE, NAVON'S POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IS CREDITED. EDITORIALS REJECT, HOWEVER, ARGUMENT THAT ISRAEL HAD ADEQUATELY RESPONDED TO SADAT AND QUESTION CRITICALLY NAVON'S CONCEPT OF PEACE. END SUMMARY.

2. BOTH AL QUDS (MODERATE AND PRO-JORDAN) AND ASH'AB (NATIONALIST AND INDEPENDENT) HAVE HAD UNCHARACTERISTICALLY KIND WORDS FOR ISRAEL'S NEW PRESIDENT YITZHAK NAVON. THE PAPERS CITE RESPECTFULLY THE PRESIDENT'S MODERATION, ORIENTAL ANCESTRY AND FLUENT ARABIC. "A COOL BREEZE... IN A SUFFOCATING SITUATION," WRITES "AL QUDS" MAY 30.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JERUSA 01504 311534Z

3. NEITHER PAPER OVERESTIMATES AN ISRAELI PRESIDENT'S DIRECT POLICY-MAKING ROLE, BUT ASH'AB CITES NAVON'S CLOUT WITH THE LABOR PARTY AND WORK ON THE KNESSET'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY COMMITTEE AS INDICATIONS THAT HE MAY BE MORE POLITICAL THAN HIS PREDECESSOR. IN ANY CASE, ASH'AB HOPES THAT NAVON CAN HELP IN "REMOVING THE DANGEROUS THORNS ON

THE PATH TO PEACE."

4. WHILE POSITIVE TOWARDS NAVON'S PERSON, BOTH PAPERS CRITICIZE ELEMENTS OF HIS STATEMENT. "WE DO NOT AGREE THAT ISRAEL HAS RESPONDED ADEQUATELY TO SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE," AL QUDS WRITES. AND ASH'AB SUGGESTS THAT THE PEACE NAVON HAS IN MIND MAY BE MORE OF A SURRENDER TO "OCCUPATION AND SETTLEMENT" OR "ANNEXATION AND EXPANSION" OR "TANKS AND ROCKETS AND THE DENIAL OF A PEOPLE'S RIGHTS."

5. COMMENT: WHILE AL QUDS HAS PREVIOUSLY WELCOMED NAVON'S ELECTION, IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT ASH'AB (RARELY OUTBID IN ITS PALESTINIAN NATIONALISM) FINDS SOME GOOD WORDS AS WELL. SHOULD SOME ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AT A FUTURE TIME CARE TO MAKE "AN APPEAL TO THE ARAB HEART" THEY WILL HAVE, IT NOW SEEMS, A CREDIBLE SPOKESMAN ON HAND IN THEIR NEW PRESIDENT.
NEWLIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA01504
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780228-0828
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978054/aaaaacyo.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 69358c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2635879
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOOD WORDS FOR PRESIDENT NAVON IN THE ARABIC PRESS
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, IS, JO, (NAVON, YITZHAK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/69358c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014